

to eat and at some houses they would destroy the furniture. But there main object seemed to get negroes and horses and to destroy the rali road, but they did not have time to do much with the rail road. All that was liken to have caught the rascals or given them more fighting was we have no Gen. Old Martin is not worth a pinch of bull Shit he never left Kinston and the 42nd Regt. and the 10th Battalion with him for a bodyguard, i say a cowardly old scoundrel. ought to have been with us or somewhere near so he could have sent dispatches and received them without delaying so much time. If we can not have a better General than old Martin we had as well quit for he he is too much like an old woman but i do believe there is some women that would beat him.

I like to forgot to tell you that i was well. From the best information i learn our men killed 8 took 103 Yanks and about 150 negroes and our loss 20 or 25 wounded or prisoners, none of our men were killed as i herd of. rite soon, give me all the news.

Kinston, N. C.

August 4, 1863

I received yours of the 29th of July in due time. I was glad to know that you were all well and getting along so good. I am well and all my relatives are well. Times have been quiet here since that march that i rote you about. The weather is very hot, has been so for the past 4 or 5 days. The ground is getting dry and that makes it hotter. The prospect for our liberty looks dark from what i can